MARVEL COMICS GROUP 12¢

Love Romances

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

105 MAY

BETTE, MY DEAREST! LET'S NOT WAIT ANY LONGER! LET'S SET OUR WEDDING DATE NOW!

NO! WE CAN'T! WE MUSTN'T! DON'T ASK IT OF ME!

THE LITTLE FOOL! SHE'S AFRAID TO TELL HIM THE TRUTH ABOUT HERSELF!

BUILD THEM UP - *in Minutes* - INTO LONG, BEAUTIFUL NAILS

NOW! **CHARLES OF FIFTH AVENUE**
550 Fifth Ave., N. Y. C. 36, N. Y.

brings to you for the first time at only $1.98, the amazing scientific liquid finger nail builder called **MAGIC NAIL FORMULA #77.** It actually BUILDS up finger nails to ANY LENGTH desired—IN MINUTES! NOT a weak paste on nail. **Magic Nail Formula #77** is a wonderful liquid. It is brushed on like nail polish on your own finger nails and hardens into glamorous long beautiful finger nails that are STRONGER THAN YOUR OWN! Becomes part of your own finger nails and may be filed, cut and shaped. **Magic Nail Formula #77** also repairs and smooths broken, and chewed nails!

DON'T HIDE YOUR HANDS! NOW YOU CAN SHOW THEM OFF!

JUST FOLLOW THESE 3 EASY STEPS
1 Insert Platform Under Short Nail
2 Brush On Magic Nail Liquid Over Nail and Platform
3 Shape New Finger Nail and Polish

GUARANTEED 100% to give you LONG, BEAUTIFUL FINGER NAILS - *in Minutes!*

FACTS ABOUT AMAZING MAGIC NAIL FORMULA #77

1. It is completely safe.
2. Not a paste on. Magic Nail Formula #77 is a liquid and powder.
3. When brushed on to your finger it hardens into a beautiful nail that is stronger than your own!
4. Will build your nails up to any length desired! — in minutes
5. Repairs broken or chewed nails in minutes!
6. Good for Nail Biters — even children! So strong, it can't be chewed!
7. Looks real and feels real!
8. Makes your hands look more glamorous!
9. Strong! — Cannot break or tear! Do housework, wash, type, play piano!
10. Lasts and lasts indefinitely!

ONLY $1.98 COMPLETE KIT
NEVER BEFORE AT THIS LOW PRICE!

TRY IT! IT'S GUARANTEED!

WHAT SOME USERS OF MAGIC NAIL FORMULA #77 SAY ABOUT IT:

"As a housewife my finger nails were always broken and short. My hands looked ugly! In minutes with your Magic Nail Formula #77 I made my nails long and beautiful! It's easy to use, my nails never break and they last and last!"

Mrs. E. D., Brooklyn, N. Y.

* * *

"I used Magic Nail Formula #77 on my young daughter's nails because she always chewed them short and they looked terrible! They're beautiful now and so strong, she can't chew them!"

Mrs. R. S., N.Y.C.

RUSH YOUR ORDER NOW

Professional nail treatment in beauty salons cost up to $15.00! The complete MAGIC NAIL FORMULA #77 KIT, during this special introductory offer, costs you **ONLY $1.98**

NO RISK OFFER! MAIL NOW!

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MAIL ORDER DEPT. M-12
BOX 67, RUGBY STA.
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GUARANTEED *lovely, glamorous nails*

☐ Send C.O.D. 1 Kit of MAGIC NAIL FORMULA #77. I will pay postman $1.98 on delivery, plus C.O.D. charges and postage.

☐ CHECK HERE TO SAVE MONEY! Enclosed is $1.98. Please rush 1 kit of MAGIC NAIL FORMULA #77. I save C.O.D. charges and postage.

MY NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____

WE SHIP TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES. ENCLOSE $2 OR ITS EQUIVALENT IN FOREIGN MONIES

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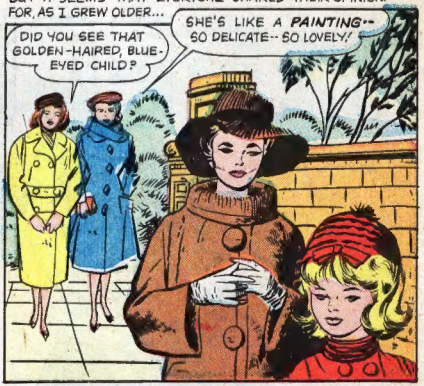
THE BEAUTY OF BEVERLY CARTER

EVERY MAN I HAVE EVER MET IS MINE FOR THE TAKING--EXCEPT THE ONE MY HEART TRULY DESIRES!
MY NAME IS BEVERLY CARTER, AND I AM VERY BEAUTIFUL! WHEN I SAY I AM BEAUTIFUL, I AM NEITHER BOASTING NOR BEING IMMODEST! IT IS JUST AS THOUGH YOU WERE TO SAY WHAT COLOR YOUR EYES ARE, OR HOW OLD YOU ARE! MY BEAUTY IS SOMETHING I HAVE TAKEN FOR GRANTED FOR YEARS! IT EXISTS--I KNOW I POSSESS IT--AND I GLORY IN IT! BUT NEVER, NEVER IN MY WILDEST FANTASIES, DID I DREAM OF THE HEART-BREAK IT WOULD ONE DAY BRING ME!
STORY BY Stan Lee

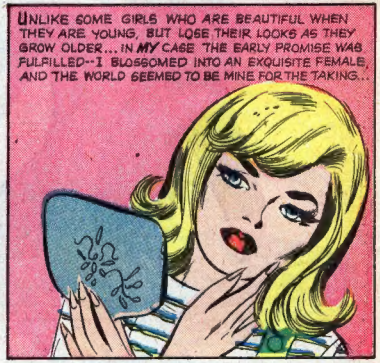
THEY TELL ME THAT I WAS BEAUTIFUL SINCE THE DAY I WAS BORN...

OF COURSE MY PARENTS MIGHT HAVE BEEN PREJUDICED, BUT IT SEEMS THAT EVERYONE SHARED THEIR OPINION! FOR, AS I GREW OLDER...

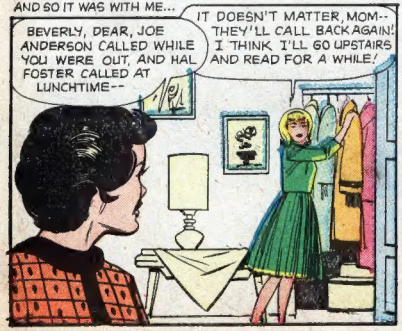


BY THE TIME I HAD REACHED MY TEENS, I TOOK MY BEAUTY AS MUCH FOR GRANTED AS MY NAME...

UNLIKE SOME GIRLS WHO ARE BEAUTIFUL WHEN THEY ARE YOUNG, BUT LOSE THEIR LOOKS AS THEY GROW OLDER... IN MY CASE THE EARLY PROMISE WAS FULFILLED--I BLOSSOMED INTO AN EXQUISITE FEMALE, AND THE WORLD SEEMED TO BE MINE FOR THE TAKING...

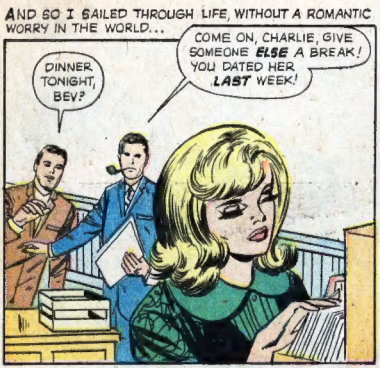


BUT HUMAN NATURE IS A PERVERSE THING--A GIRL NEVER SEEMS TO WANT ANYTHING WHICH SHE CAN GET TOO EASILY, AND SO IT WAS WITH ME...


BEVERLY, DEAR, JOE ANDERSON CALLED WHILE YOU WERE OUT, AND HAL FOSTER CALLED AT LUNCHTIME--
IT DOESN'T MATTER, MOM-- THEY'LL CALL BACK AGAIN! I THINK I'LL GO UPSTAIRS AND READ FOR A WHILE!

EVEN IN THE WORLD OF BUSINESS, MY BEAUTY EASILY WON ME ANY JOB I APPLIED FOR--SO LONG AS THE EMPLOYER WAS A MAN...

MY TYPING IS FAIR, AND I'M NOT TOO GOOD AT SHORTHAND!
WELL, THAT DOESN'T MATTER! I'M SURE YOU CAN LEARN QUICKLY WHILE YOU'RE HERE! WHEN CAN YOU START?


AND SO I SAILED THROUGH LIFE, WITHOUT A ROMANTIC WORRY IN THE WORLD...
COME ON, CHARLIE, GIVE SOMEONE ELSE A BREAK! YOU DATED HER LAST WEEK!
DINNER TONIGHT, BEV?

MY EVENINGS WERE SPENT DANCING...
BEV... IF THIS COULD ONLY LAST FOREVER!

AND ROMANCING...
BEV, WHEN YOU'RE THIS CLOSE TO ME, I CAN HARDLY SPEAK...
NO GIRL MINDS A LITTLE SILENCE ONCE IN A WHILE, TOM!

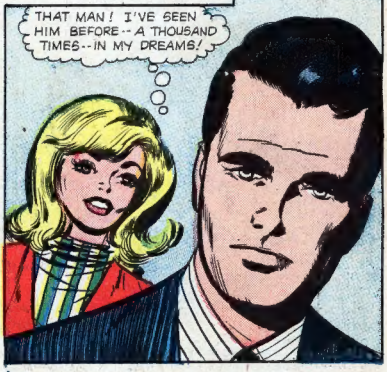
BUT, BECAUSE IT WAS SO EASY, IT MEANT ALMOST NOTHING TO ME...
I SHOULD BE THE HAPPIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD! I CAN HAVE MY PICK OF THE MOST HANDSOME, ELIGIBLE MALES! AND YET, IT'S ALL SO MEANINGLESS! SO DULL!

THE BOYS I'VE DATED SO FAR... I CAN HARDLY REMEMBER ALL THEIR NAMES! IF ONLY I COULD MEET A MAN WHOM I COULD LOVE -- AS MUCH AS THE OTHERS LOVE ME!

NO ONE KNOWS THE THOUGHTS A GIRL THINKS IN THE PRIVACY OF HER OWN ROOM! AND NO ONE WOULD HAVE SUSPECTED THAT I, THE BEAUTIFUL BEVERLY CARTER, OFTEN CRIED MYSELF TO SLEEP AT NIGHT, BECAUSE OF THE EMPTY, YEARNING FEELING IN MY HEART...
IS THIS ALL MY BEAUTY CAN BRING ME?... NOTHING BUT EMPTY PRAISE AND DATES WHICH HAVE NO MEANING? THERE MUST BE MORE TO LIFE! THERE MUST BE!

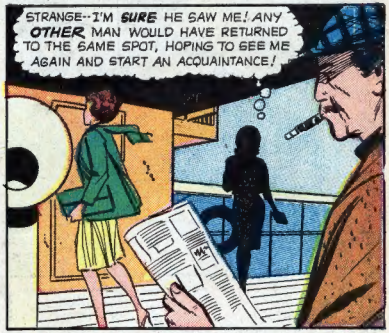
AND SO, IN A DESPERATE SEARCH TO FIND SOMETHING --SOMETHING I WASN'T EVEN SURE EXISTED, I BOOKED PASSAGE FOR A CARIBBEAN CRUISE ON MY FIRST TWO-WEEKS VACATION...

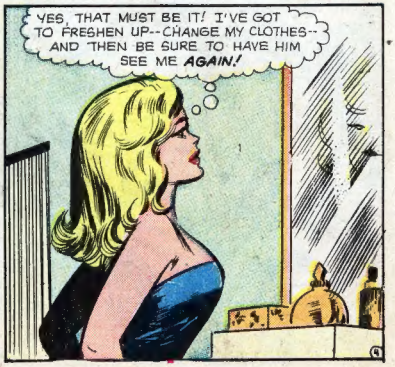
BUT NEVER IN MY WILDEST DREAMS DID I DARE TO HOPE IT COULD HAPPEN SO QUICKLY! FOR, FROM THE FIRST INSTANT I SAW HIM, I KNEW!



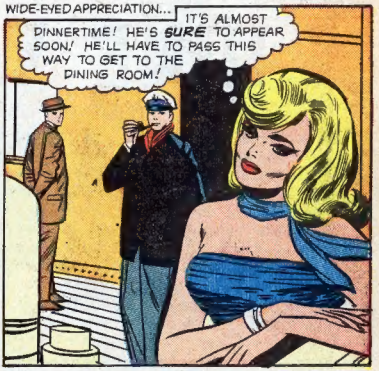
IT WAS A SIMPLE MATTER FOR ME TO CHARM THE PURSER INTO GIVING ME THE NAME OF THE TALL, HANDSOME STRANGER--AS WELL AS HIS MARITAL STATUS...

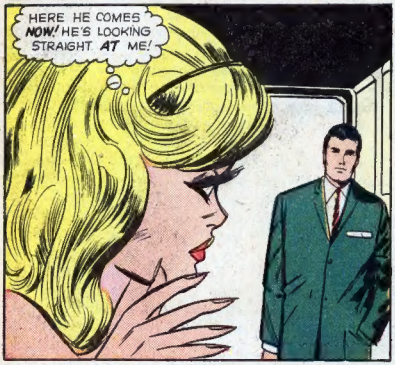
ALTHOUGH I LINGERED ON THE DECK FOR ALMOST AN HOUR, DON MAXWELL MADE NO FURTHER APPEARANCE...

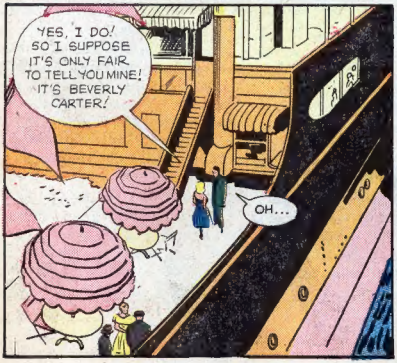

STRANGE--I'M SURE HE SAW ME! ANY OTHER MAN WOULD HAVE RETURNED TO THE SAME SPOT, HOPING TO SEE ME AGAIN AND START AN ACQUAINTANCE!



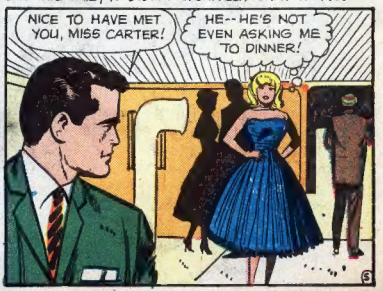
AND I KNEW I HAD SUCCEEDED! FOR, AS I RETURNED TO DECK IN THE GATHERING TWILIGHT, THERE WASN'T A MAN IN SIGHT WHO DIDN'T STARE AT ME WITH WIDE-EYED APPRECIATION...







AND SO IT WAS DONE! FROM THAT MOMENT ON, ACCORDING TO ALL MY PAST EXPERIENCE WITH MEN, HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN MY VIRTUAL SLAVE! HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN ANOTHER ADORING MALE IN MY COLLECTION! BUT THIS TIME, IT DIDN'T WORK OUT THAT WAY...



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JUNE WEDDING

THE wonderful excitement of a June wedding fills the air, and I can hardly believe that within a few short minutes I will hear the strains of the wedding march. Only a few weeks ago I faced the most difficult decision a girl has to make. I would never have believed then that I could ever look in the mirror again and see my face smiling back at me in a happy radiance. Can this be the same Valerie Scott who ran away from herself in a wild confusion of sorrow?

The breaking point in my successful, orderly life came on a memorable Friday evening with the jangle of a telephone. I had just prepared dinner for myself in the small apartment. The glimmer of stainless steel in my modern, career girl kitchenette had once delighted me. I had worked hard during my year in the big city, and I reveled in every material accessory that I had bought for myself. That was in the very beginning. By now, the novelty of living alone had worn itself against the lonely hours I spent in dreary solitude. I leaped for the telephone and Bob's voice brought a sigh of relief to my lips.

"I had to work late on the payroll," he explained. "I thought I might drop in for a while if I wouldn't be interfering with any plans you had made."

"I'll whip up dinner for us both if you can be along within an hour," I said eagerly.

"You're the rare combination of my favorite girl *and* cook. You're perfect, and I love you in spite of it."

I warmed to the praise and went about my tasks cheerfully. The tremendous burden of spending my evening alone was lifted like a cloud and I basked in the sunny anticipation of Bob's company.

Charles usually came over on Friday evenings, but he was out of town at a sales conference that week-end. Bob was taking me to the theater on Saturday night, and if Charles got back in time he would drop in late Sunday afternoon. My week-end was complete now, and I realized how much I had come to depend on Bob and Charles. It didn't speak too well for me, of course, that I couldn't bear to have one day on the week-end to myself.

It never used to be like that in my home town when I lived with Aunt Martha. I was always self-reliant, and I made my own way without relying upon dates as heavily as I did now. I was, in fact, amazingly different then, and to Aunt Martha's dismay I usually turned down the home town boys and busied myself with studies that prepared the way to my leaving Mapleton for a career in the Big City.

Aunt Martha worried about my indifference to a busy social life, and once I heard her discussing it with Dr. Baxter, a close friend and confidante.

"Valerie appreciates all that you've done in giving her a home, Martha," the kind doctor had explained, "but she has a drive to break away and make good on her own. You can't stop her. You've devoted your life to the girl, Martha, and perhaps you feel more strongly about letting her go on her own than her own parents would be if they were alive. You must make a life for yourself, Martha dear. Valerie is a woman, not a child any more. She'll come to you whenever she needs you. If you stand in her way just to keep her for yourself she'll resent you and you'll lose her completely."

Aunt Martha was a loving and understanding woman. She was a young widow when I had first come to stay with her. I will never forget the devotion she showed the bewildered six-year-old orphan who came to Mapleton to live after an automobile tragedy took the lives of my own parents. Aunt Martha and I consoled each other. We had both suffered a tremendous personal loss, and together we rebuilt our lives, grateful for each other, and eventually happy in the pleasant Mapleton town.

Perhaps one of the main reasons I was driven towards the city was that I had lived there with my parents. It was a challenge to return there where I thought I had my roots. I think Aunt Martha tried her best to understand that, too.

I met Bob, and then Charles through the personnel agency I came to work for during my first week in town. I liked them immediately, and I didn't try to further my contacts with fellows because I took such pleasure in their company that it didn't seem necessary to look further.

I may be flattering myself, but it wasn't long before I realized that the soft-eyed Miss from Mapleton had charmed

CONTINUED...

NEW KIND OF SHOE WILL FILL YOUR POCKETS WITH CASH!

SEND COUPON FOR MY FREE OUTFIT!

Make Money! Just 8 Easy Orders a Day Bring You Up to $960 a Month!

From the moment you step into Mason's revolutionary new Ripple Sole shoes, things start to happen. People stop you on the street . . . want to know where they can buy this amazingly different kind of shoe. And there are plenty of good reasons why you'll sell Mason Ripple Sole Shoes on sight. First, they are so different. No one has ever seen anything like 'em! These are the shoes that give shock-reducing gliding action . . . forward thrust . . . to every step you take. More comfortable, because they feature Mason's famous Air Cushion innersoles. Everyone wants 'em!

But Ripple Sole shoes are only one of many exciting new features in the powerful Selling Outfit I'll send you FREE! Using this outfit in the way I'll show you, you can earn as much as **$960 EXTRA monthly on just 8 easy orders a day!** I'll set you up in a "Shoe Store Business" you can run from home. You'll have no expenses. You'll never have to invest one cent. Yet you keep 100% of the profit! No wonder James Kelly of Ohio made $93.55 selling Mason Nationally-Advertised shoes—in a single evening! No wonder C. Tuttle averages $80 a week! It's easy, with our way of selling shoes. You need no experience. We carry the stock. We ship the shoes. All you do is show the styles, take orders! You get cash, prizes, bonuses!

210 Fast-Selling Styles To Send Your Profits Soaring!

It's easy for you to make money fast, with so many new ideas like the Ripple Sole, amazing Shu-lok laceless shoe—plus dozens of time-tested, popularity-proven staple items like water-shedding Syflex shoes, sturdy, comfortable, long-wearing work shoes, steel-toe safety shoes, others! Mason shoes sell fast! They're nationally Advertised in magazines read by thousands of people daily! Sell to friends, neighbors, folks where you work. Top men make up to $10 an hour—from their very first hour!

Best "Shoe Store Business" in Town!

You feature foamy-soft Air Cushion innersoles . . . sturdy steel shanks . . . Nylon stitching . . . special work soles of Neoprene, Cork, Cushion Neoprene Crepe. Customers "repeat" time after time—profits pour in as long as you care to earn cash! And Mason Shoes are never sold by stores—so folks must buy from YOU. You run the best "shoe store business" in town, because you draw on a selection of over a quarter million pairs of top-quality shoes in sizes from 2 to 15 . . . widths all the way from extra-narrow AAAA to extra-wide EEEE! No need to substitute . . . your customers get the size and width they need, in the style they want!

Here's How You Can START IMMEDIATELY!

Send no money—now or later. Simply fill out and mail the coupon below, and we'll rush you FREE Starting Business Outfit worth up to $960 EXTRA MONTHLY CASH PROFIT to you! You'll get Kit featuring 210 quick-selling dress, sport, work shoe styles for men and women . . . foolproof Measuring Equipment . . . How-To-Make-BIG-MONEY Booklet . . . EVERYTHING you need to start making loads of extra cash from your first hour. Act today, because Mason's amazing Ripple Sole Shoe is new—exciting—in big demand! Rush coupon Now!

MASON SHOE MFG. CO. DEPT. X-776
Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin (Since 1904)

WORKERS WANT MASON ON-THE-JOB SHOES! NOW THEY CAN BUY THEM FROM YOU!

YOUR SURE SOURCE OF EXTRA INCOME!

Wherever you go, working people are eager prospects for famous Mason Air Cushion extra-comfort on-the-job shoes. That's why so many Mason Shoe Counselors multiply earnings with quantity orders, by specializing in shoe needs of policemen, postmen, factory workers, nurses, waitresses, service station men! We furnish sales aids . . . show you how to get the orders. Don't delay—mail coupon for your FREE Starting Outfit today!

RUSH MY FREE OUTFIT!

MR. VICTOR MASON DEPT. X-776
Mason Shoe Mfg. Co., Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

You bet I want to earn as much as $960 EXTRA MONTHLY CASH by showing your new Ripple Sole Shoe and 209 other proven moneymakers! Rush EVERYTHING I need—FREE and postpaid—to start making extra cash at once!

Name..... (PLEASE PRINT)

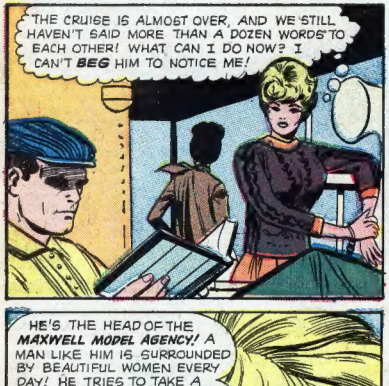
Address.....

Town..... State.....

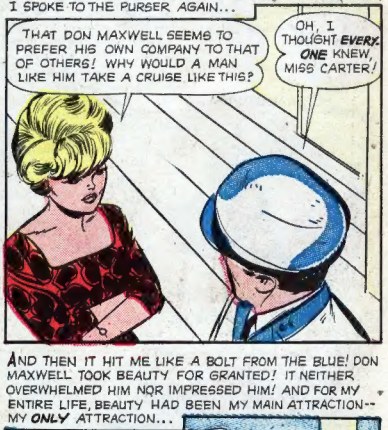
DUMBFOUNDED, I ENTERED THE DINING ROOM A FEW MINUTES AFTER HIM, TO FIND THAT HE HAD TAKEN A TABLE WITH HIS BACK TO THE DOOR! HE WASN'T EVEN INTERESTED IN SEEING WHETHER OR NOT I WOULD SIT NEAR HIM! HE DIDN'T SEEM TO CARE IF I EVEN EXISTED...

I RUSHED TO THE LADIES' LOUNGE, STUDYING MYSELF IN THE MIRROR IN FRUSTRATION...

BUT IT DIDN'T MATTER HOW I DID MY HAIR, OR WHAT DAZZLING OUTFIT I CHOSE TO APPEAR IN! FOR, AS THE DAYS WENT BY, FOR ALL DON MAXWELL SEEMED TO CARE, I MIGHT AS WELL NOT HAVE BEEN ON THE SHIP...

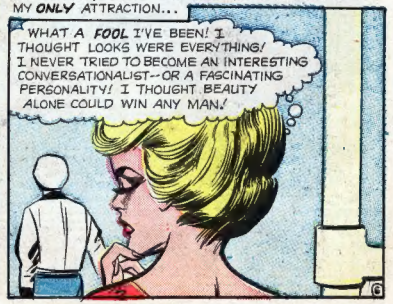

THE CRUISE IS ALMOST OVER, AND WE STILL HAVEN'T SAID MORE THAN A DOZEN WORDS TO EACH OTHER! WHAT CAN I DO NOW? I CAN'T BEG HIM TO NOTICE ME!

AND THEN, NOT KNOWING WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO TURN, I SPOKE TO THE PURSER AGAIN...

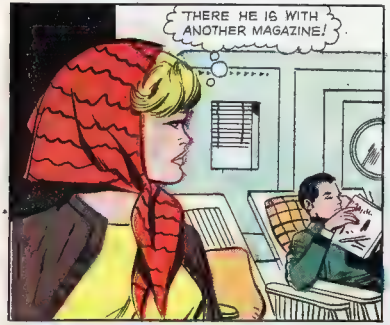

THAT DON MAXWELL SEEMS TO PREFER HIS OWN COMPANY TO THAT OF OTHERS! WHY WOULD A MAN LIKE HIM TAKE A CRUISE LIKE THIS?
OH, I THOUGHT EVERY ONE KNEW, MISS CARTER!

HE'S THE HEAD OF THE MAXWELL MODEL AGENCY! A MAN LIKE HIM IS SURROUNDED BY BEAUTIFUL WOMEN EVERY DAY! HE TRIES TO TAKE A COUPLE OF WEEKS OFF EVERY SO OFTEN TO GET AWAY FROM THEM!

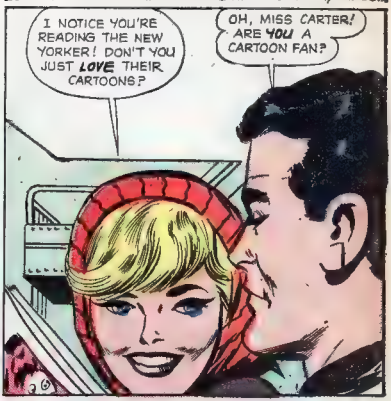
AND THEN IT HIT ME LIKE A BOLT FROM THE BLUE! DON MAXWELL TOOK BEAUTY FOR GRANTED! IT NEITHER OVERWHELMED HIM NOR IMPRESSED HIM! AND FOR MY ENTIRE LIFE, BEAUTY HAD BEEN MY MAIN ATTRACTION--MY ONLY ATTRACTION...


WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN! I THOUGHT LOOKS WERE EVERYTHING! I NEVER TRIED TO BECOME AN INTERESTING CONVERSATIONALIST--OR A FASCINATING PERSONALITY! I THOUGHT BEAUTY ALONE COULD WIN ANY MAN!

THE NEXT DAY WAS THE FINAL DAY OF THE CRUISE! I DIDN'T BOTHER FUSSING ABOUT MY APPEARANCE AT ALL! INSTEAD, I CARELESSLY TIED A SCARF AROUND MY HAIR AND, WITH A CASUAL SWEATER OVER MY SHOULDERS, I STROLLED OUT TO THE PROMENADE DECK IN A LAST BID FOR DON MAXWELL'S HEART...

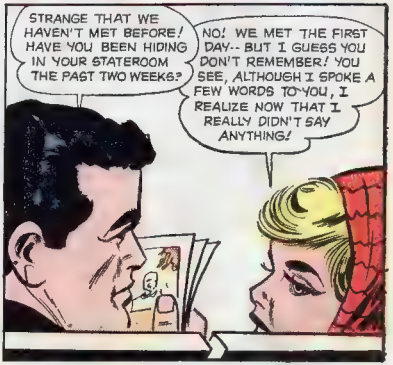


LUCKILY THE DECK CHAIR NEXT TO HIM WAS EMPTY, AND SO...

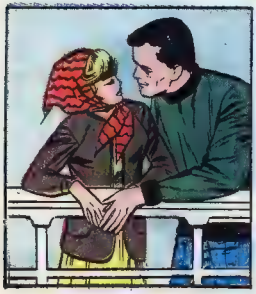


WITHIN SECONDS, WE WERE CHATTING AS THOUGH WE HAD KNOWN EACH OTHER ALL OUR LIVES! AND NOT ONCE DID I WORRY ABOUT MY HAIR OR WHETHER MY CLOTHES WERE EVOKING THE PROPER WIDE-EYED APPROVAL OF THE MAN WITH ME...

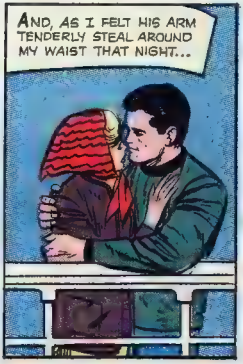
YOUR WORK MUST BE TREMENDOUSLY FASCINATING! THE MODEL BUSINESS SIMPLY REEKS WITH GLAMOR!
ONLY TO THOSE WHO AREN'T IN IT, I'M AFRAID! TO ME, IT'S JUST ANOTHER JOB! TOO MUCH GLAMOR IS LIKE TOO MUCH PASTRY--ONE CAN GET VERY TIRED OF IT!


STRANGE THAT WE HAVEN'T MET BEFORE! HAVE YOU BEEN HIDING IN YOUR STATEROOM THE PAST TWO WEEKS?
NO! WE MET THE FIRST DAY-- BUT I GUESS YOU DON'T REMEMBER! YOU SEE, ALTHOUGH I SPOKE A FEW WORDS TO YOU, I REALIZE NOW THAT I REALLY DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING!

AND SO, I LEARNED THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSON OF MY LIFE! NO MATTER HOW BEAUTIFUL A GIRL IS, IT TAKES MORE THAN THAT TO WIN A MAN AND HOLD HIM...



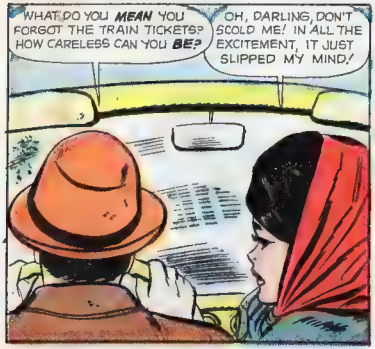
AND, AS I FELT HIS ARM TENDERLY STEAL AROUND MY WAIST THAT NIGHT...



... AND HIS WARM LIPS PRESSED DOWN ON MINE, I THANKED THE GOOD LORD THAT I HAD LEARNED MY LESSON-- IN TIME!

"I Dare Not Tell Him!"
STORY: Stan Lee
I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU MAN AND WIFE! YOU MAY KISS YOUR BRIDE!
IT HAD BEEN A WHIRLWIND COURTSHIP AND NOW IT WAS ENDING IN AN UNEXPECTED ELOPEMENT! BUT, ALAS, THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF MY TALE -- NOT THE END!
WE WERE BOTH SO YOUNG--AND SO MUCH IN LOVE! OR SO WE THOUGHT!

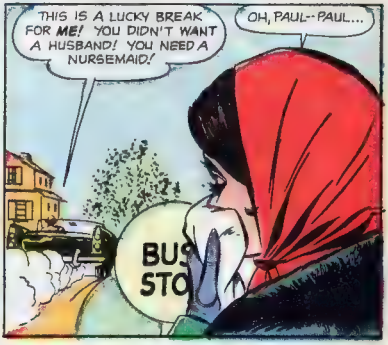
BUT ALMOST BEFORE THE MEMORY OF HIS TENDER KISS HAD VANISHED, WHAT STARTED OUT AS A DREAM OF LOVE ENDED IN A DISILLUSIONED NIGHTMARE! FOR, AS WE DROVE AWAY FROM THE LITTLE COTTAGE...


WHAT DO YOU *MEAN* YOU FORGOT THE TRAIN TICKETS? HOW CARELESS CAN YOU *BE?*
OH, DARLING, DON'T SCOLD ME! IN ALL THE EXCITEMENT, IT JUST SLIPPED MY MIND!

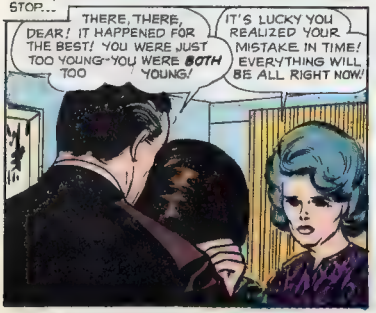
IT SLIPPED YOUR *MIND?* SOME GAL I JUST MARRIED! I DIDN'T SUSPECT I WAS GETTING STUCK WITH A SCATTERBRAIN!
PAUL! WHAT'S GOTTEN *INTO* YOU?

ONE WORD LED TO ANOTHER, AND I SUDDENLY SAW THE BOY I *THOUGHT* I HAD LOVED! I SAW HIM FOR THE FIRST TIME AS HE REALLY WAS! THEN, WITH TEARS OF DISILLUSIONMENT STREAMING DOWN MY CHEEKS, I FLED...

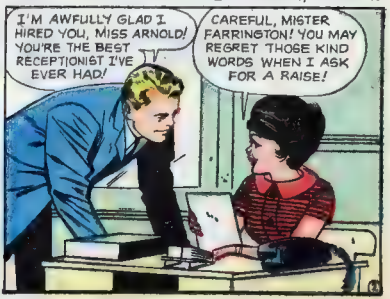
I HEARD HIS CALLOUS WORDS AS HE DROVE OFF... WORDS THAT STAYED WITH ME FOR MONTHS TO COME...



HOURS LATER, I WAS SAFE IN THE BOSOM OF MY FAMILY, WEEPING AS THOUGH THE TEARS WOULD NEVER STOP...


THERE, THERE, DEAR! IT HAPPENED FOR THE BEST! YOU WERE JUST TOO YOUNG--YOU WERE *BOTH* TOO YOUNG!
IT'S LUCKY YOU REALIZED YOUR MISTAKE IN TIME! EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT NOW!

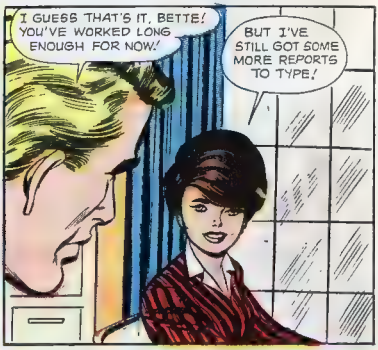
DAYS LATER, MY MARRIAGE WAS ANNULLED, AND I TRIED TO ERASE THE SHATTERING EVENT FROM MY MIND! I FELT A JOB WOULD HELP ME TO FORGET, AND SO...


I'M AWFULLY GLAD I HIRED YOU, MISS ARNOLD! YOU'RE THE BEST RECEPTIONIST I'VE EVER HAD!
CAREFUL, MISTER FARRINGTON! YOU MAY REGRET THOSE KIND WORDS WHEN I ASK FOR A RAISE!

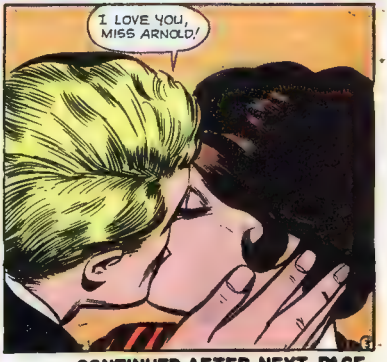
AS THE MONTHS SPED BY, MY JOB FOR STUART FARRINGTON BEGAN TO MEAN MORE AND MORE TO ME! PERHAPS THAT WAS BECAUSE STU FARRINGTON ***HIMSELF*** HAD COME TO MEAN SO MUCH TO ME...

BETTE, I HOPE YOU WON'T MIND STAYING LATE TONIGHT TO FINISH THESE REPORTS!
I ***DID*** HAVE SOME DATES WITH A FEW ASSORTED MILLIONAIRES AND LEADERS OF INDUSTRY, BUT I GUESS I CAN POSTPONE THEM TILL TOMORROW!

HE CALLED IT WORKING OVERTIME, BUT TO ME, STAYING IN THE OFFICE AFTER HOURS... BEING NEAR STU FARRINGTON, HELPING HIM, SEEING HIM, WAS THE CLOSEST THING TO REAL HAPPINESS I'D EVER KNOWN...



SAY NOTHING, DEAR! LATELY, I JUST SEEM TO EXIST FROM DAY TO DAY! MY NIGHTS ARE EMPTY, MEANINGLESS! I SPEND THEM COUNTING THE MINUTES TILL I'LL SEE YOU NEXT MORNING!



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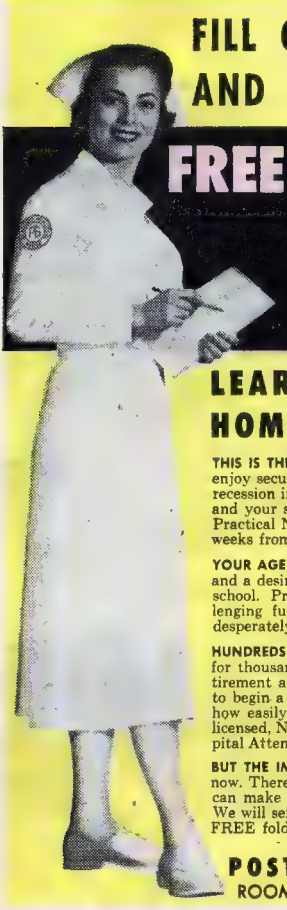
FILL OUT THE COUPON ABOVE AND I WILL RUSH TO YOU...



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AS HIS LIPS TOUCHED MINE, A WARM GLOW FILLED MY HEART! I KNEW THAT THIS, AT LAST, WAS TRUE LOVE, REAL LOVE, LASTING LOVE...

IT WAS SO DIFFERENT FROM THE LAST TIME! FROM THAT TIME WHEN I HAD MISTAKEN A YOUTHFUL CRUSH FOR THE REAL THING...

YOU'RE SO RIGHT, SO PERFECT! YOU'RE EVERYTHING I'VE EVER WANTED! I WANT TO MARRY YOU, BETTE!

OH, STU... MY DARLING!

AND THEN IT HIT ME, LIKE A BOLT FROM THE BLUE! I REMEMBERED MY PAST! MY ANNULMENT! THE ONE INCIDENT HE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT! THE ONE THING I HAD NEVER TOLD HIM...

NO! **NO!** DON'T SAY IT! PLEASE! IT ISN'T RIGHT! YOU MUSTN'T!

BETTE!... WHAT **IS** IT?

BETTE! MY DARLING! **WAIT!** DON'T LEAVE ME! WHAT HAVE I **DONE?**

NOTHING! YOU'VE DONE NOTHING AT ALL! IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT! IT'S **MINE!** I'VE **GOT** TO GO! **(SOB)** I'VE **GOT** TO!

BLINDLY, TEARFULLY, I RACED OUT INTO THE NIGHT...

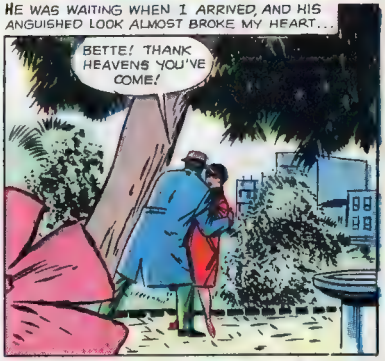
HE'S SO FINE... SO DECENT! AND HE THINKS I'M PERFECT! I COULDN'T BEAR IT-- I COULDN'T BEAR TO HAVE HIM FIND OUT--THAT I'VE BEEN MARRIED BEFORE!

I COULDN'T BEAR TO SEE THE LOOK ON HIS FACE AS HE GROPES FOR WORDS... TRYING TO RETRACT HIS PROPOSAL... TO LET ME OFF EASILY, WITHOUT HURTING ME TOO MUCH!

THE NEXT DAY I COULDN'T GO TO THE OFFICE! I DIDN'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO FACE HIM! BUT THERE WAS NO WAY TO AVOID IT...

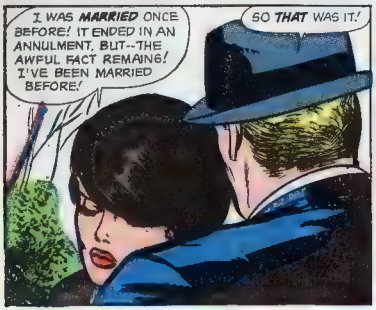
HE WAS BEWILDERED, AND HE WAS HURT! I KNEW I OWED HIM AN EXPLANATION! NO MATTER HOW PAINFUL IT WOULD BE, I KNEW I OWED HIM THAT!

HE WAS WAITING WHEN I ARRIVED, AND HIS ANGUISHED LOOK ALMOST BROKE MY HEART...

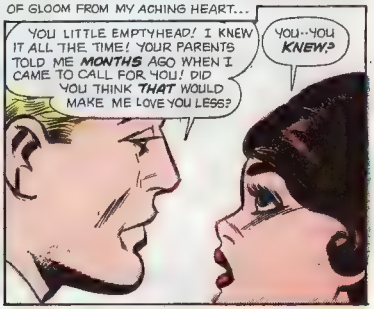


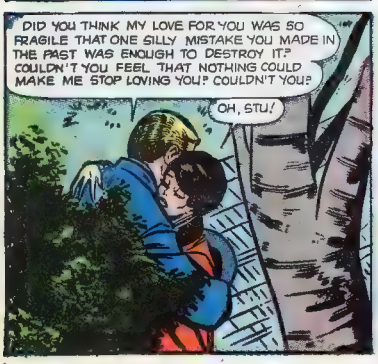
I WAS A FOOL, BETTE! I LOVE YOU SO MUCH THAT I THOUGHT... I THOUGHT YOU LOVED ME, TOO! I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW MY PROPOSAL WOULD UPSET YOU!
I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT YOUR HAPPINESS IS ALL THAT MATTERS TO ME! I WANT YOU TO COME BACK TO WORK, BETTE! I SWEAR I'LL NEVER EMBARRASS YOU BY MENTIONING THIS AGAIN!

AND THEN I KNEW I COULDN'T KEEP IT FROM HIM ANY LONGER! I HAD TO TELL HIM--I *OWED* IT TO HIM! NO MATTER *HOW* IT WOULD CHANGE HIS FEELINGS FOR ME...



AND THEN, INCREDIBLY, HE THREW HIS HEAD BACK AND BEGAN TO LAUGH! A CLEAN, HAPPY, JOYOUS LAUGH WHICH SEEMED TO BRUSH ASIDE EVERY CLOUD OF GLOOM FROM MY ACHING HEART...


YOU LITTLE EMPTYHEAD! I KNEW IT ALL THE TIME! YOUR PARENTS TOLD ME *MONTHS* AGO WHEN I CAME TO CALL FOR YOU! DID YOU THINK *THAT* WOULD MAKE ME LOVE YOU LESS?
YOU--YOU *KNEW?*


DID YOU THINK MY LOVE FOR YOU WAS SO FRAGILE THAT ONE SILLY MISTAKE YOU MADE IN THE PAST WAS ENOUGH TO DESTROY IT? COULDN'T YOU FEEL THAT NOTHING COULD MAKE ME STOP LOVING YOU? COULDN'T YOU?
OH, STU!

I NEVER *DID* ANSWER HIS QUESTION! NOT WITH WORDS AT ANY RATE! FOR WHEN HIS LIPS TOUCHED MINE, OUR HEARTS TOLD EACH OTHER ALL WE NEEDED TO KNOW... FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES!
the end

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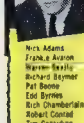

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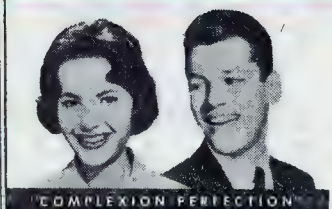

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HEARTBEATS in the PARK!

THIS IS THE TALE OF PHILIP ARCHER, A MAN WHO LOVED BEAUTY--PERHAPS TOO MUCH! FOR ON THIS DAY, HE FOUND THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ONE OF ALL...AND IT ALMOST BROKE HIS HEART! NO ONE CAN TELL IT BETTER THAN I... FOR I *AM* PHILIP ARCHER, AND THIS IS *MY* STORY!

PHIL, DEAR, MAY I TAKE A BREAK NOW?
NO! NOT YET! I DON'T WANT TO LOSE THIS MOOD--IT'S COMING ALONG MAGNIFICENTLY! JUST A FEW MINUTES MORE, DIANE!
Stan Stanley

I APPLIED EACH BRUSH STROKE TO THE CANVAS WITH LOVING CARE, OBLIVIOUS TO THE CURIOUS BYSTANDERS AROUND ME...

IT NEEDS JUST A LITTLE MORE SOFTNESS TO THE CHEEK...

ART WAS MY LIFE, AND BEAUTY MY INSPIRATION! PERHAPS YOU'VE SEEN MY PAINTINGS ON BILLBOARDS, MAGAZINE COVERS, OR ADS? THEY WERE ALWAYS PAINTINGS OF GLAMOROUS MODELS, OF STARRY-EYED BEAUTIES...

THERE! IT'S FINISHED, DI!

I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE IT, PHILIP!

BUT ONCE THE PAINTING WAS FINISHED, MY INTEREST WAS ENDED! I WAS EAGER TO BEGIN A NEW PROJECT, TO FIND ANOTHER, STILL LOVELIER SUBJECT...

PHIL, IT'S ***WONDERFUL!*** **I LOVE** IT!!

GOOD, DI! AFTER IT APPEARS ON THE COVER OF ***ADORE,*** I'LL GIVE YOU THE ORIGINAL!

AND THEN, AT THAT VERY MOMENT, I SAW ***HER...***

OH, PHIL! MAY I REALLY HAVE THE PAINTING? YOU'RE REALLY WONDERFUL! I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A BIG ***KISS*** FOR THAT!

THAT GIRL!! SHE'S THE MOST FASCINATING FEMALE I'VE EVER SEEN!

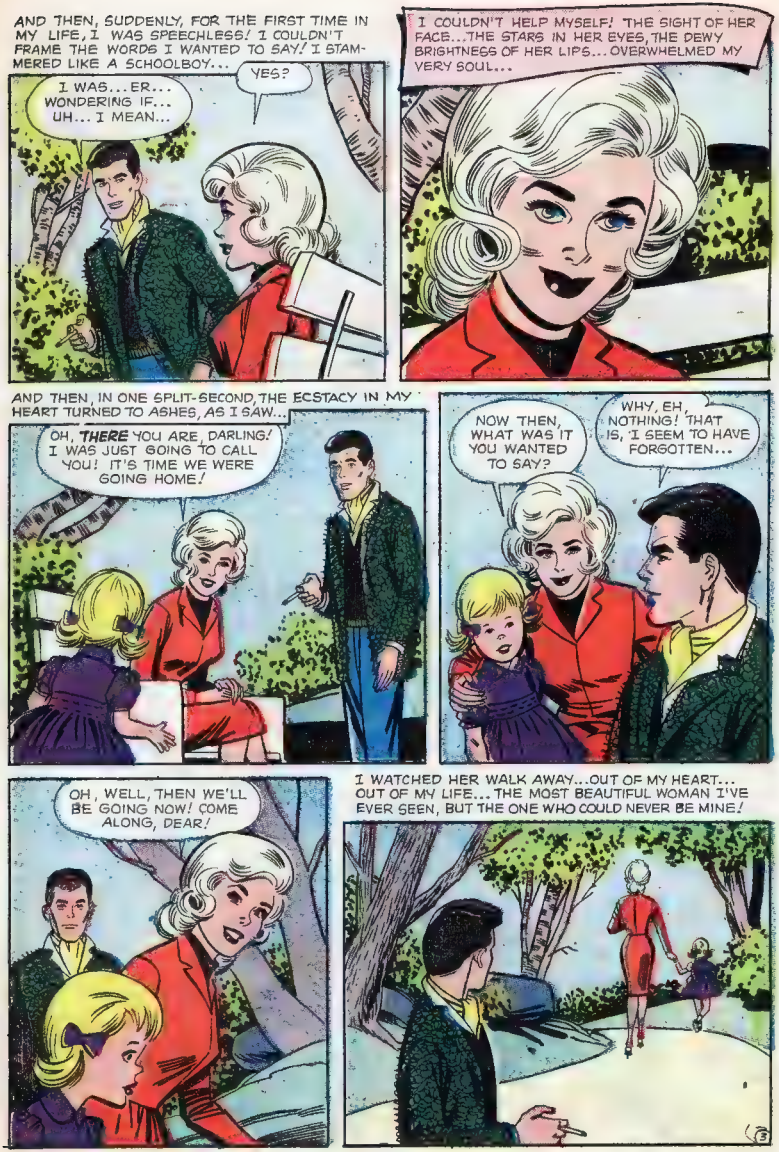
I'LL SEE YOU AROUND, DI!

WELL!! IF ***THAT'S*** ALL I MEAN TO YOU--!!

AND THAT WAS ALL DI MEANT TO ME! IT WAS ALL THAT ***ANY*** GIRL HAD EVER MEANT TO ME! THEY HAD JUST BEEN MODELS FOR ME TO PAINT, AND WHEN THE PAINTING WAS FINISHED, SO WERE THEY! THAT IS, UNTIL ***NOW!***

I... I WONDER IF I MIGHT ASK YOU SOMETHING...

WHY, CERTAINLY...


AND THEN, SUDDENLY, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE, I WAS SPEECHLESS! I COULDN'T FRAME THE WORDS I WANTED TO SAY! I STAMMERED LIKE A SCHOOLBOY...
I WAS... ER... WONDERING IF... UH... I MEAN...
YES?
I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF! THE SIGHT OF HER FACE... THE STARS IN HER EYES, THE DEWY BRIGHTNESS OF HER LIPS... OVERWHELMED MY VERY SOUL...
AND THEN, IN ONE SPLIT-SECOND, THE ECSTACY IN MY HEART TURNED TO ASHES, AS I SAW...
OH, THERE YOU ARE, DARLING! I WAS JUST GOING TO CALL YOU! IT'S TIME WE WERE GOING HOME!
NOW THEN, WHAT WAS IT YOU WANTED TO SAY?
WHY, EH, NOTHING! THAT IS, I SEEM TO HAVE FORGOTTEN...
OH, WELL, THEN WE'LL BE GOING NOW! COME ALONG, DEAR!
I WATCHED HER WALK AWAY... OUT OF MY HEART... OUT OF MY LIFE... THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN I'VE EVER SEEN, BUT THE ONE WHO COULD NEVER BE MINE!

FROM THAT DAY ON, I STOPPED PAINTING IN THE PARK, FOR I COULDN'T BEAR THE THOUGHT OF SEEING HER AGAIN...OF TORTURING MYSELF WITH THE HEAVENLY SIGHT OF HER...

IT'S A LOVELY DAY, PHIL! WHY DON'T YOU FINISH THIS PORTRAIT IN THE PARK, AS USUAL?

NO! JUST SIT THERE AND POSE! AND DON'T TRY TO TELL ME MY BUSINESS!

I FOUND MYSELF GETTING SHORT-TEMPERED, IMPATIENT WITH THE LOVELY GIRLS WHO POSED FOR ME! FOR, AFTER HAVING SEEN ***HER,*** SOMETHING SEEMED TO BE ***LACKING*** IN ALL THE ***OTHERS!***

NO! NO! ***NO!*** YOUR HAIR ***STILL*** ISN'T RIGHT! HOW MANY MORE TIMES MUST I TELL YOU ***HOW*** TO FIX IT?

BUT THE ONE THING I WOULDN'T DO... COULDN'T DO...WAS RETURN TO THE PARK!

BUT NO MATTER WHAT I DID...WHERE I WENT... I COULDN'T FORGET HER! IT EVEN BEGAN TO AFFECT MY WORK...

YOU'VE GOT TO PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, PHIL! YOU'RE SLIPPING, BOY! EVERY GIRL YOU'VE PAINTED LATELY HAS LOOKED THE SAME AS THE ***LAST*** ONE!

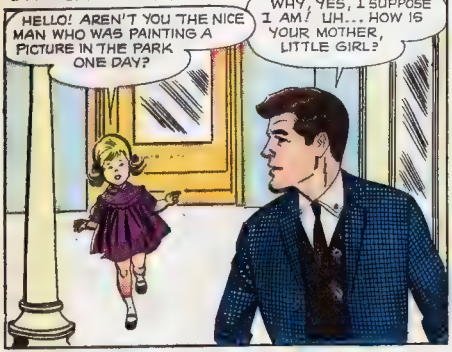
WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO GET YOURSELF A ***NEW*** MODEL?

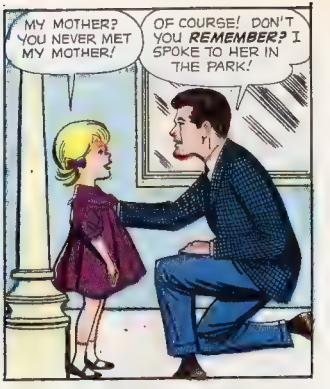
BUT THAT'S JUST ***IT!*** I ***USED*** A DIFFERENT MODEL FOR ***EACH*** PAINTING! NO MATTER ***WHOM*** I PAINT, THEY ALWAYS TURN OUT TO LOOK LIKE ***HER!***

I DON'T KNOW WHO THAT YOUNG LADY ***IS,*** PHIL, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT IT ***BAD,*** BOY!

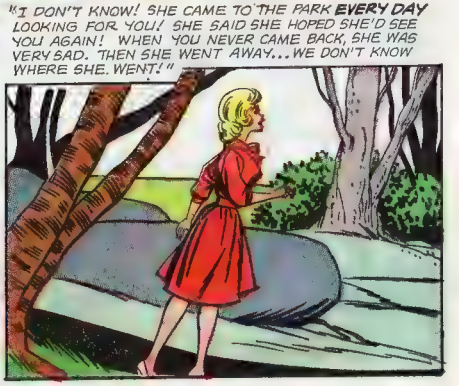
I'M AFRAID IT'S EVEN WORSE THAN YOU SUSPECT, OLD FRIEND! MUCH WORSE!

AND THEN, SUDDENLY, UNEXPECTEDLY, ONE DAY I SAW THE LITTLE GIRL AGAIN...


HELLO! AREN'T YOU THE NICE MAN WHO WAS PAINTING A PICTURE IN THE PARK ONE DAY?
WHY, YES, I SUPPOSE I AM! UH... HOW IS YOUR MOTHER, LITTLE GIRL?

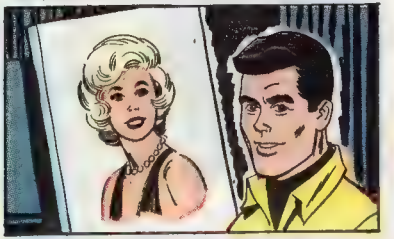


OH THAT WASN'T MY MOTHER! THAT WAS MY GOVERNESS! SHE TOOK CARE OF ME WHILE MOMMY WAS AWAY!
YOUR GOVERNESS! I--I NEVER SUSPECTED! THEN THERE'S STILL HOPE! WHERE IS SHE, LITTLE GIRL? TELL ME!


"I DON'T KNOW! SHE CAME TO THE PARK EVERY DAY LOOKING FOR YOU! SHE SAID SHE HOPED SHE'D SEE YOU AGAIN! WHEN YOU NEVER CAME BACK, SHE WAS VERY SAD. THEN SHE WENT AWAY... WE DON'T KNOW WHERE SHE WENT!"

SUDDENLY I KNEW WHAT A FOOL I HAD BEEN! BECAUSE I HAD BEEN TOO DISAPPOINTED TO MAKE SURE OF MY FACTS, I HAD LET THE ONE GIRL WHO HAD EVER MEANT SOMETHING TO ME GO OUT OF MY LIFE, LEAVING IT LONELY, EMPTY...

AND THAT IS WHY I HAVE ASKED THE EDITORS OF LOVE ROMANCES TO PRINT MY STORY AND TO LET ME SUPPLY THE PAINTINGS OF A GIRL WHO OWNS MY HEART! I PRAY THAT SOMEDAY...SOMEHOW, SHE'LL READ THIS STORY... AND UNDERSTAND!



...AND THEN, PERHAPS SHE'LL RETURN TO THE PARK WHICH I VISIT EVERY DAY--AND WHICH I'LL NEVER STOP VISITING UNTIL SHE'S MINE--FOREVER!!

THE END

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MONEY BACK IF NOT SATISFIED

---CONTINUED

these city fellows into romantic devotion. Bob held my hand tenderly as we strolled through the park or sat in the cool darkness of a movie house. Charles' blue eyes twinkled admiration the minute he saw me. I accepted their affections with warm delight until that eventful Friday night when I knew I would have to choose forever between them.

Bob came in the apartment that night and whirled me off my feet by announcing that he had just received a raise in pay and that we would be married as soon as possible.

"How does a June wedding strike that fanciful head of yours?" he asked gaily, kissing me full on the lips with an intenseness that frightened me.

I pulled back, and he looked down at me with hurt anger.

"What's the matter, Valerie? Is there something wrong? I want you to be honest. Is there anyone else?"

Just then the doorbell rang. I opened the door and Charles swept me into his arms with affectionate gaiety.

"Surprise, darling!" he fairly shouted. "I didn't have to leave town after all and . . ."

He stopped short when he saw Bob.

I introduced them falteringly. I had never realized that I might be considered guilty of playing the game of one against the other. I liked them both very much, and I had never really led either one of them to expect something serious . . . Or had I?

Bob and Charles acted like two civilized, decent human being. They were cordial, but restrained as I tried to make light, useless conversation with my head spinning.

Bob excused himself politely.

"I'll call you tomorrow night," he said. "You can let me know your answer then."

"He's asked you to marry him, hasn't he?" Charles guessed as soon as Bob left.

I nodded helplessly.

"Is it too late for me to make my bid, Valerie? You know how I feel, don't you?"

I cried that night in shame and despair. I couldn't face either one of them until I made up my mind. Bob understood when I called to cancel our date. I wasn't feeling well, and I left a message with the call service that I would be in Mapleton. There, I would put my problems on the adequate shoulders of wonderful Aunt Martha.

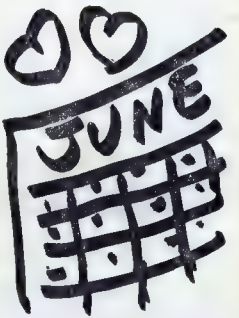
"I don't understand you, Valerie," said Aunt Martha. "What *is* your problem?"

I looked at her incredulously.

"Don't you see! I don't know *which* one to marry!"

Aunt Martha smiled calmly.

"Yes you do," she contradicted. "Deep in your heart you know very definitely. The man you love is one with whom you will want to spend each day of your life, and the greatest mutual gift you will give to each other is understanding."



I went upstairs to my old room and stretched out upon the bed. The moon came through the window and brought the soft quiet of night and peacefulness. "The greatest mutual gift . . . understanding . . ." The words ran through my mind in a circle of repetition. How well did I understand Charles? Enough perhaps to realize that his chief drive was toward monetary success. His extravagant indulgence on our dates might flatter my ego, but when it came to balancing the budget wouldn't I take a different attitude on the subject? The thought led to a chain of ideas concerning Charles' recklessness. I had always thought of him as impulsive . . . a trait that might add charm to a date night, but was quite something else when thought of in terms of a marriage. When I thought carefully, as now, I realized that Charles' proposal had come in a similar rash moment on the heels of his realization that Bob had popped the question. Charles was like a spoiled little boy reaching out for what someone else wanted, attracted not by his own desire, but by someone else's.

Bob was so different, so dependable . . . so wonderful! We shared many pleasures and interests. He was ambitious, but level headed with a sound, handsome head on those strong shoulders. Suddenly, I wished I could lean against him and draw the strength I had lost in this turmoil of emotion. Would Bob ever really feel the same after Charles had intruded on the scene?

I walked downstairs to speak to Aunt Martha again. A man's voice came from the living room.

"I don't know if I've done the right thing, but I have to speak to her. I love her, and . . ."

How I adored the sensation of watching the serious look on Bob's face change to joy as I rushed into his waiting arms.

"A June wedding will be perfect, darling," I told him breathlessly.

It is perfect! They are playing the wedding march as I come down the aisle, trailing my lovely white bridal veil. I look at Bob, and I thrill with the sureness of my love and our everlasting happiness.

THE END

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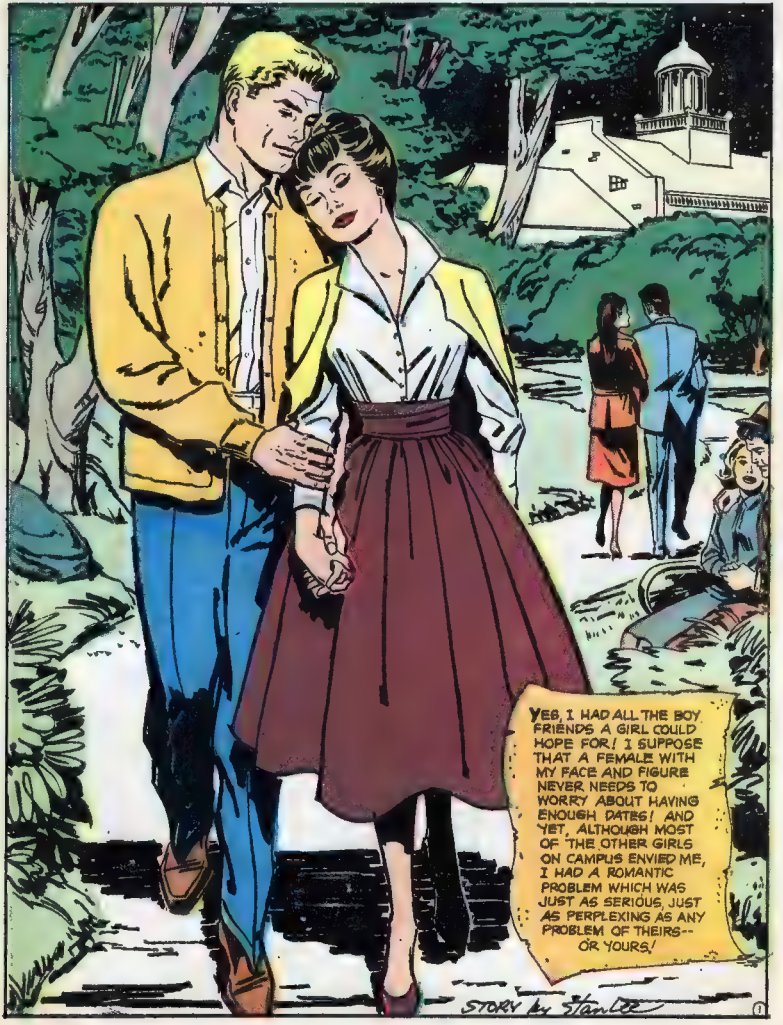
LOVE or INFATUATION?


YES, I HAD ALL THE BOY FRIENDS A GIRL COULD HOPE FOR! I SUPPOSE THAT A FEMALE WITH MY FACE AND FIGURE NEVER NEEDS TO WORRY ABOUT HAVING ENOUGH DATES! AND YET, ALTHOUGH MOST OF THE OTHER GIRLS ON CAMPUS ENVIED ME, I HAD A ROMANTIC PROBLEM WHICH WAS JUST AS SERIOUS, JUST AS PERPLEXING AS ANY PROBLEM OF THEIRS-- OR YOURS!
STORY by Stan Lee

YOU MAY WONDER WHAT KIND OF A PROBLEM A GIRL AS POPULAR AS I COULD POSSIBLY HAVE...
C'MON, PAL--GIVE US OTHER FELLAS A CHANCE!
WELL, SEE IF YOU CAN GUESS...
SUE I GUESS YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU...
YES, I DO!
BUT DON'T LET'S SPOIL THE MOOD OF THIS LOVELY MUSIC, BOB! LET'S JUST DANCE!
LATER...
YOU'VE HAD IT, BOB! I'M CLAIMING SUE FOR THE NEXT QUARTER OF AN HOUR!
COISES! FOILED AGAIN!
SUE, I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING...
OH?
I'VE NEVER ASKED A GIRL TO WEAR MY PIN BEFORE, BUT...
DON'T, LLOYD, DEAR! IT'S... IT'S TOO SOON!

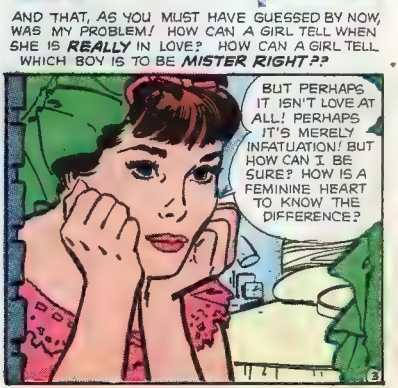
HERE COMES SUE AGAIN!
AND I CAN TELL BY THAT LOOK ON HIS FACE THAT SHE DIDN'T ACCEPT LLOYD'S PIN!
GREAT! THEN THERE'S STILL HOPE FOR US!

YOU MAY WONDER WHY I DISCOURAGED ALL THE BOYS WHO TRIED TO PIN ME UP-- WHO TRIED TO GO STEADY WITH ME--AND WHO TRIED TO HINT AT MARRIAGE!

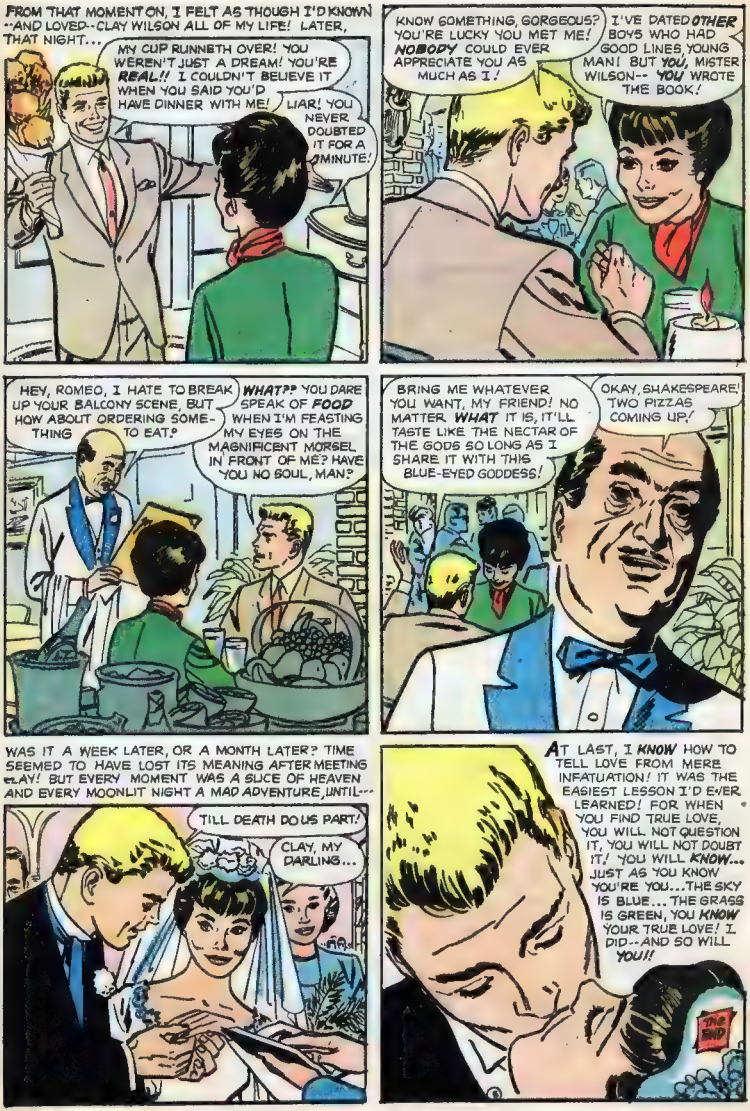
PERHAPS YOU THINK I DIDN'T LIKE ANY OF THEM ENOUGH ... BUT THAT ISN'T THE ANSWER! THAT WASN'T MY PROBLEM AT ALL!

THE FACT IS... I LIKED THEM ALL!
I ALWAY ENJOY BEING WITH TOM! BOB IS WONDERFUL FUN... A GREAT DANCER! LLOYD IS THE SWEETEST BOY IN SCHOOL... ALWAYS CONSIDERATE, ALWAYS A GENTLEMAN!

BUT A GIRL MUST FINALLY MAKE A CHOICE! AND YET I SEEM TO LOVE THEM ALL!


AND THAT, AS YOU MUST HAVE GUESSED BY NOW, WAS MY PROBLEM! HOW CAN A GIRL TELL WHEN SHE IS REALLY IN LOVE? HOW CAN A GIRL TELL WHICH BOY IS TO BE MISTER RIGHT??
BUT PERHAPS IT ISN'T LOVE AT ALL! PERHAPS IT'S MERELY INFATUATION! BUT HOW CAN I BE SURE? HOW IS A FEMININE HEART TO KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR ME TO ASK THE OTHER GIRLS, FOR THEY THOUGHT I WAS MERELY BRAGGING...
OH, REALLY, SUE! YOU'RE JUST TOO MUCH!
MY HEART JUST BREAKS FOR YOU, DEAR--HAVING TO CHOOSE BETWEEN SO MANY DREAMBOATS!
BUT I MEAN IT! TAKE YOU, FOR INSTANCE, JEAN! YOU'RE ENGAGED! HOW DID YOU KNOW YOU WERE IN LOVE WITH HIM? DID--DID YOU HEAR BELLS? DID YOUR HEART POUND WHEN ROB PROPOSED? I REALLY MEAN IT!
OH, SUE, STOP KIDDING! I JUST KNEW, THAT'S ALL!
C'MON, JEAN! LET'S SAVE OUR SYMPATHY FOR THOSE WHO REALLY NEED IT!
IT SEEMED THAT I WOULD NEVER KNOW THE SECRET OF RECOGNIZING TRUE LOVE! THAT IS, UNTIL MINUTES LATER, WHEN...
SUPPOSE YOU WERE A BOY AND HAD JUST SEEN THE LOVELIEST CREATURE IN THE WORLD AND WANTED TO MEET HER! WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
I SUPPOSE I'D WALK OVER TO HER AND INTRODUCE MYSELF!
NOT ONLY IS SHE A VISION OF LOVELINESS, BUT SHE POSSESSES AN UNDERSTANDING HEART!
MY NAME IS CLAY WILSON AND I'M A SENIOR! I'M PROSTRATE WITH GRIEF BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T MET SOONER!
I'M SUE BENNETT, AND IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET SUCH A NICE, SHY LAD!
YE GADS! IT'S MORE THAN MORTAL MAN CAN BEAR! NOT ONLY DOES HER BEAUTY SURPASS ALL UNDERSTANDING, BUT SHE HAS A SENSE OF HUMOR, TOO! IF YOU'RE ALREADY PINNED UP, I'LL DESTROY MYSELF ON THE SPOT!
CLAY WILSON, HAS ANYONE EVER TOLD YOU YOU'RE A NUT?


FROM THAT MOMENT ON, I FELT AS THOUGH I'D KNOWN --AND LOVED--CLAY WILSON ALL OF MY LIFE! LATER, THAT NIGHT...
MY CUP RUNNETH OVER! YOU WEREN'T JUST A DREAM! YOU'RE REAL!! I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT WHEN YOU SAID YOU'D HAVE DINNER WITH ME!
LIAR! YOU NEVER DOUBTED IT FOR A MINUTE!
KNOW SOMETHING, GORGEOUS? YOU'RE LUCKY YOU MET ME! NOBODY COULD EVER APPRECIATE YOU AS MUCH AS I!
I'VE DATED OTHER BOYS WHO HAD GOOD LINES, YOUNG MAN! BUT YOU, MISTER WILSON-- YOU WROTE THE BOOK!
HEY, ROMEO, I HATE TO BREAK UP YOUR BALCONY SCENE, BUT HOW ABOUT ORDERING SOMETHING TO EAT?
WHAT?? YOU DARE SPEAK OF FOOD WHEN I'M FEASTING MY EYES ON THE MAGNIFICENT MORSEL IN FRONT OF ME? HAVE YOU NO SOUL, MAN?
BRING ME WHATEVER YOU WANT, MY FRIEND! NO MATTER. WHAT IT IS, IT'LL TASTE LIKE THE NECTAR OF THE GODS SO LONG AS I SHARE IT WITH THIS BLUE-EYED GODDESS!
OKAY, SHAKESPEARE! TWO PIZZAS COMING UP!
WAS IT A WEEK LATER, OR A MONTH LATER? TIME SEEMED TO HAVE LOST ITS MEANING AFTER MEETING CLAY! BUT EVERY MOMENT WAS A SLICE OF HEAVEN AND EVERY MOONLIT NIGHT A MAD ADVENTURE, UNTIL---
TILL DEATH DO US PART!
CLAY, MY DARLING...
AT LAST, I KNOW HOW TO TELL LOVE FROM MERE INFATUATION! IT WAS THE EASIEST LESSON I'D EVER LEARNED! FOR WHEN YOU FIND TRUE LOVE, YOU WILL NOT QUESTION IT, YOU WILL NOT DOUBT IT, YOU WILL KNOW... JUST AS YOU KNOW YOU'RE YOU... THE SKY IS BLUE... THE GRASS IS GREEN, YOU KNOW YOUR TRUE LOVE! I DID--AND SO WILL YOU!!
THE END

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116. Ladies exquisite wedding ring. 9 or 7 matching, simulated diamonds all around. Pinkish setting. Sterling Silver or yellow or white gold color effect.

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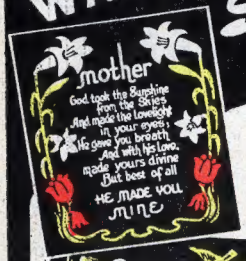

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Just write and ask us to send you 40 of these beautiful glittering mottoes which the public likes so well. Sell them easily and quickly to your friends and neighbors for only 35¢ each. At the end of 14 days send back, if you wish, all mottoes you have not sold, and send us only 25¢ for each you have sold. You keep all the rest of the money.

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Albert Dorne – probably the greatest money-maker in the history of commercial art. At the height of his career, he began a full-time search for people who like to draw.

He's Looking for People Who Like to Draw

TODAY HUNDREDS of men and women who never thought they could be artists are working happily at easels and drawing boards, making pictures, and getting well paid for it. They all can thank Albert Dorne, a famous artist who devotes almost his full time to helping other people become artists.

Some of the people Dorne has helped

Herb Smith was a payroll clerk. Soon after he started studying with us, he landed an art job with a large printing firm. This was four years ago; today he's head artist for the same firm.

John Busketta is another. He was a pipefitter's helper in a big gas company. Today he still works for the same company, but as an artist in the advertising department, with a big increase in pay.

Harriet Kuzniewski was bored with an "ordinary" job before she heard of Albert Dorne. Today she does high-style fashion illustration in New York.

With the right training, Wanda Pickulski gave up her typing job to become fashion artist for a local department store.

John Whitaker of Memphis was an airline clerk two years ago. Recently he won a national cartooning contest and was signed to do a newspaper comic strip.

Long before Albert Dorne started looking for people who like to draw, they came to him for advice and help. Since he alone could only help a few of these people he called together America's most successful artists—men like Norman Rockwell, Jon Whitcomb. Stevan Dohanos and Al Parker.

A Plan to Help Others

He said: "All over America, there are people who like to draw, who could be turned into good artists. Why can't we give these people the training they need—including all the trade secrets and know-how we've learned over the years? I'm suggesting a new kind of school—a home-study art school that would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live."

America's 12 Most Famous Artists

Norman Rockwell	Fred Ludekens
Jon Whitcomb	Ben Stahl
Al Parker	Robert Fawcett
Stevan Dohanos	Austin Briggs
George Giusti	Harold Von Schmidt
Peter Helck	Albert Dorne

The famous artists agreed. Taking time from their busy careers, they spent several years creating a remarkable series of art lessons covering every aspect of drawing and painting. They illustrated their lessons with over 5,000 "here's-how" illustrations. The lessons start from scratch and cover every skill a top artist needs. Finally, the famous artists developed a wonderful way to give each student personal correction and advice all through his training.

Albert Dorne is not surprised by the success of his students. "The art field is growing. We keep getting calls from all over the country, asking us for practical, well-trained students who can step into full-time or part-time art jobs."

Famous Artists Talent Test

To find others with art talent worth developing, the famous artists created a 12-page talent test. Thousands paid $1 for this test, but now the School offers it free and will grade it free. If you show talent on the test, you will be eligible for training by the School. No obligation. Simply mail coupon. It might be your first step to an exciting, well-paid career in art.

Famous Artists Schools
Studio 5849, Westport, Conn.

I would like to find out whether I have art talent worth developing. Please send me, without obligation, your Famous Artists Talent Test.

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